

Message Text

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TO WHITE HOUSE FLASH

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WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS SAM 86970

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TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER)

SUBJ: PRESS MATERIAL

HEREWITH FULL TEXT SEYMOUR HERSH FRONT PAGE BYLINER NEW YORK TIMES MONDAY, JANUARY 14 HEADED " REPORT ON DATA LEAK SAID TO HAVE NAMED MOORER".

WASHINGTON, JAN. 13- DAVID R. YOUNG JR., A MEMBER OF THE WHITE HOUSE " PLUMBERS" GROUP, CONCLUDED IN A REPORT SUBMITTED IN EARLY 1972 TO PRESIDENT NIXON THAT ADM. THOMAS H. MOORER, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, HAD RECEIVED SECRET NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENTS TAKEN FROM THE OFFICE OF HENRY A. KISSINGER, WELL PLACED SOURCES SAID TODAY.

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MR. YOUNG'S REPORT, DESCRIBED BY SOME SOURCES AS "BOOK LENGTH," WAS SAID TO HAVE SUMMARIZED HIS INVESTIGATION INTO AN ALLEGED MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OPERATION INSIDE THE WHITE

HOUSE. THE SOURCES SAID THAT MR. YOUNG HAD CONCLUDED THAT CLASSIFIED MATERIALS WERE PROVIDED BOTH TO ADMIRAL MOORER'S OFFICE AND TO JACK ANDERSON, THE COLUMNIST, WHO PUBLICATION IN DECEMBER, 1971, OF WHITE HOUSE PAPERS ON THE INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR INITIALLY PROMPTED THE INQUIRY.

THE EXISTENCE OF MR. YOUNG'S FORMAL REPORT BECAME KNOWN AS THE MYSTERY DEEPENED AND QUESTIONS MOUNTED OVER THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OPERATION.

THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED TODAY THAT ONE OF THE OFFICIALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN MR. YOUNG'S INQUIRY HAD LATER SOUGHT TO "BLACKMAIL" HIS WAY INTO A MORE IMPORTANT JOB BY THREATENING TO MAKE THE SECRET MATERIAL PUBLIC AS WELL AS TO EXPOSE THE EXISTENCE OF THE MILITARY ACTIVITIES INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE.

NO ONE IN THE WHITE HOUSE WOULD RESPOND TO TELEPHONE CALLS TODAY.

ON FRIDAY, THE WHITE HOUSE SAID THAT THE SOURCES OF SOME "DELIBERATE LEAKS TO THE MEDIA" HAD BEEN TRACED TO A "LOW-LEVEL EMPLOYEE WHOSE CLERICAL TASKS GAVE HIM ACCESS TO HIGHLY CLASSIFIED INFORMATION." THE STATEMENT MADE NO MENTION OF THE ALLEGATION OF MILITARY SNOOPING INSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE. ADMIRAL MOORER HAS DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE ALLEGED INTELLIGENCE OPERATION.

ONE BASIC QUESTION AS A RESULT OF THE ACCOUNTS MADE PUBLIC THUS FAR ARISES OVER THE HANDLING OF YEOMAN 1ST CL. CHARLES E. RADFORD, A FORMER MEMBER OF THE MILITARY LIAISON UNIT INSIDE THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WHO WAS IDENTIFIED IN MR. YOUNG'S REPORT, ACCORDING TO SOURCES, AS THE MAIN SOURCE OF THE LEAKS. SOURCES SAID HE WAS ALSO THE "LOW-LEVEL EMPLOYEE" REFERRED TO BY THE WHITE HOUSE.

YEOMAN RADFORD WAS NEVER FORMALLY CHARGED WITH ANY OFFENSE AND IS STILL ON ACTIVE DUTY WITH THE NAVY AT A
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RESERVE CENTER IN SALEM, ORE. HE HAS REFUSED TO COMMENT ON THE ISSUE, TELLING ONE NEWSMAN TODAY THAT HE HAD BEEN ORDERED BY NAVY OFFICIALS NOT TO TALK. A NAVY OFFICER ON DUTY IN THE PENTAGON SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE KNOWS OF NO SUCH ORDER.

ANOTHER QUESTION REVOLVES AROUND THE STATUS OF ADMIRAL MOORER.

SOURCES SAID THAT MR. YOUNG HAD ESTABLISHED THAT YEOMAN RADFORD, SAID TO BE AN EXCELLENT SECRETARY, WAS

FORMALLY ASSIGNED TO ADMIRAL MOORER'S STAFF WHILE WORKING FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AND HAD AT ONE TIME WORKED IN OFFICES ACROSS A PENTAGON HALL FROM THE ADMIRAL'S PERSONAL QUARTERS.

A NUMBER OF FORMER AND PRESENT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED BY THE TIMES IN RECENT DAYS WONDERED WHY, IN THE FACE OF THE REPORTED EVIDENCE AMASSED BY MR. YOUNG, MR. NIXON REAPPOINTED THE ADMIRAL TO A SECOND TWO-YEAR TERM AS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF IN MID-1972.

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE REPORTED TODAY THAT PRESIDENT NIXON BECAME SO ANGERED WHEN HE FIRST LEARNED OF ADMIRAL MOORER'S ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL INTELLIGENCE OPERATION THAT HE WANTED TO OUST HIM.

ASKED ABOUT THAT REPORT, A SOURCE CLOSE TO THE ADMIRAL DESCRIBED THE NIXON-MOORER RELATIONSHIP AS "VERY GOOD" AND SAID THAT THE ADMIRAL HAD BEEN ADVISED BY THE PRESIDENT IN FEBRUARY, 1972, THAT HE WAS GOING TO BE REAPPOINTED AS JCS CHAIRMAN, THE NATION'S HIGHEST MILITARY JOB.

THIS NAVY SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT REAR ADM. ROBERT C. WELANDER, THE HEAD OF THE MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE IN THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ABRUPT TRANSFER OF YEOMAN RADOFRD AFTER PUBLICATION OF THE INDIA-PAKISTAN PAPERS. MR. YOUNG, HOWEVER, WAS KNOWN TO REPORTED THAT ADMIRAL WELANDER HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE PASSING OF INFORMATION FROM MR. KISSINGER'S OFFICE TO
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ADMIRAL MOORER'S OFFICE.

SOURCES INTERVIEWED TODAY CONTINUED TO BE SHARPLY DIVIDED ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MILITARY'S ALLEGED INTERNECINE SPYING OPERATION.

A NUMBER OF WHITE HOUSE AND SENATE OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THAT IT WAS THIS OPERATION- INVESTIGATED BY MR. YOUNG- THAT PRESIDENT NIXON HAD IN MIND WHEN HE TALKED OF IMPORTANT "NATIONAL SECURITY" CONSIDERATIONS THAT PROMPTED HIM EARLIER LAST YEAR TO URGE THAT ONGOING JUSTICE DEPARTMENT INQUIRIES INTO THE PLUMBERS BE STOPPED.

LAST MONTH THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTED THAT SOME OF MR. NIXON'S OTHER "NATIONAL SECURITY" CONSIDERATIONS-- INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE EXPOSURE OF A SOVIET SPY AND A CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY INFORMANT-- HAD LEFT MANY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS UNCONVINCED OF THE VALIDITY OF THE PRESIDENT'S BELIEF. ONE WELL PLACED SOURCE SAID THEN THAT

HIS CONCERNS WERE NOT "NATIONAL SECURITY BUT NIXON SECURITY."

OTHERS ECHOED TODAY THOSE SENTIMENTS REGARDING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ALLEGED MILITARY SPYING ACTIVITIES WITH ONE OFFICIAL CATEGORIZING THE MILITARY ACTIVITIES AS "NOTHING MORE THAN A BUNCH OF PARANOIDS RUNNING AFTER EACH OTHER."

OTHERS CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE YEAR LONG WATERGATE INVESTIGATION, HOWEVER, CAUTIONED THAT, AS ONE PUT IT, "THERE'S A CRITICAL AREA IN THERE THAT HASN'T COME OUT YET," A REFERENCE TO THE ALLEGED MILITARY SPYING ACTIVITIES.

ANOTHER OFFICIAL SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD OF "OTHER THINGS" REGARDING MR. YOUNG'S INQUIRY THAT " STRIKES ME AS BETTER NATIONAL SECURITY REASONS."

SOME FORMER NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AIDES,WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT ALL OF THE FACTS ABOUT MR. YOUNG'S INVESTIGATION HAVE NOT BEEN MADE KNOWN, INSISTED NONETHELESS
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IN INTERVIEWS THAT THE ALLEGED MILITARY SPYING ACTIVITIES WERE NOT NECESSARILY SINISTER.

" NEITHER THE STATE DEPARTMENT NOR THE PENTAGON KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON,"ONE FORMER GOVERNMENT AIDE SAID. " AND THEY BOTH WANTED TO KNOW WHAT THE STATE OF PLAY WAS."

HE ADDED THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S EQUIVALENT TO THE ALLEGED MILITARY ACTIVITIES WOULD HAVE BEEN THE RELAYING OF ANY POSSIBLE INFORMATION ABOUT MR. KISSINGER'S ACTIVITIES DURING OVERSEAS VISITS TO THEN SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM P. ROGERS.

" MY INTUITIVE FEELING IS THAT YOU'LL FIND SIMILAR KIND OF STUFF IF YOU LOOK AT STATE," THIS SOURCE SAID.
(END TEXT).
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